

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sat. Sept. 25, 2021, 6:00 p.m. & Sun. Sept. 26, 2021, 8:30 a.m.

Order of Worship

* indicates congregation stands

We welcome all people in the Name of Jesus Christ!

John 3:16-17

Prelude

Pastoral Greeting

Opening Hymn

From All That Dwell Below the Skies *LSB 816*



1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's
2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -
3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be, All praise, e - ter - nal



praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Son, to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and
Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore For - ev - er and for -



ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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* Invocation

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

* Opening Sentences

Psalm 104:33

Leader: I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

All: I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

Leader: May my meditation be pleasing to Him,

All: for I rejoice in the LORD.

* Confession and Absolution

James 5:7, 9, 12, 14, 16; Mark 9:50; Psalm 104:31, 35b

Leader: We enjoy singing praises to God, but we truly need Him to look down on us in mercy. So often we fail to follow the directives for Christian living, which we will read about in today's Epistle. So James urges, "Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed." Let us ask God for grace and mercy.

Silence for reflection.

Leader: James writes, "Be patient . . . until the coming of the Lord. . . Do not grumble against one another, brothers. . . . Let your 'yes' be yes and your 'no' be no. . . . Is anyone among you sick? . . . Pray over him."

All: We confess our impatience, our lack of love for our brothers and sisters in Christ, and our words that do not always reflect the love You have for us. We have sinned in thought, word, and deed. Heavenly Father, our only hope is in Your grace and mercy. Forgive us for Jesus' sake.

Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become

the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our ✠ Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

* Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together,

All: Everlasting Father, source of every blessing, mercifully direct and govern us by Your Holy Spirit that we may complete the works You have prepared for us to do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 104:27-35 *NIV*

Lector: The Old Testament Reading is from the 104th Psalm.

All creatures look to you
to give them their food at the proper time.
When you give it to them,
they gather it up;
when you open your hand,
they are satisfied with good things.
When you hide your face,
they are terrified;
when you take away their breath,
they die and return to the dust.
When you send your Spirit,
they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.
May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
may the LORD rejoice in his works—
he who looks at the earth, and it trembles,
who touches the mountains, and they smoke.
I will sing to the LORD all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.
May my meditation be pleasing to him,
as I rejoice in the LORD.
But may sinners vanish from the earth
and the wicked be no more.
Praise the LORD, my soul.

Praise the LORD.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Epistle

I Corinthians 9:1-23 NIV

Paul's Rights as an Apostle.

Lector: The Epistle is from the 9th chapter of 1st Corinthians.

Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not the result of my work in the Lord? Even though I may not be an apostle to others, surely I am to you! For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

This is my defense to those who sit in judgment on me. Don't we have the right to food and drink? Don't we have the right to take a believing wife along with us, as do the other apostles and the Lord's brothers and Cephas? Or is it only I and Barnabas who lack the right to not work for a living?

Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat its grapes? Who tends a flock and does not drink the milk? Do I say this merely on human authority? Doesn't the Law say the same thing? For it is written in the Law of Moses: "Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain." Is it about oxen that God is concerned? Surely he says this for us, doesn't he? Yes, this was written for us, because whoever plows and threshes should be able to do so in the hope of sharing in the harvest. If we have sown spiritual seed among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you? If others have this right of support from you, shouldn't we have it all the more?

But we did not use this right. On the contrary, we put up with anything rather than hinder the gospel of Christ.

Don't you know that those who serve in the temple get their food from the temple, and that those who serve at the altar share in what is offered on the altar? In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel.

But I have not used any of these rights. And I am not writing this in the hope that you will do such things for me, for I would rather die than allow anyone to deprive me of this boast. For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am

compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make full use of my rights as a preacher of the gospel.

Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Choir Anthem

With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw, 1923

With a voice of singing
declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.
The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia.

O be joyful in God, all ye lands,
O sing praises to the honor of His name,
Make His praise to be glorious.

With a voice of singing
declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

* Holy Gospel

Mark 9:38–50 NIV

***Jesus teaches how much God values all who have a relationship
with His Son.***

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 9th chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord.

“Teacher,” said John, “we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us.”

“Do not stop him,” Jesus said. “For no one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, for whoever is not against us is for us. Truly I tell you, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to the Messiah will certainly not lose their reward.

“If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, where

“‘the worms that eat them do not die,
and the fire is not quenched.’

Everyone will be salted with fire.

“Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt among yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

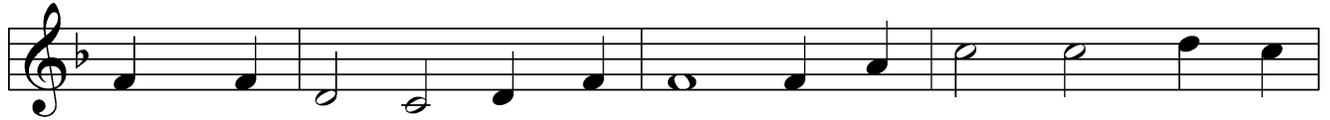
Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service *LSB 848*



1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble ser - vice Bore the weight of
2 Still Your chil - dren wan - der home-less; Still the hun - gry
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till Your love's re -
4 Called by wor - ship to Your ser - vice, Forth in Your dear



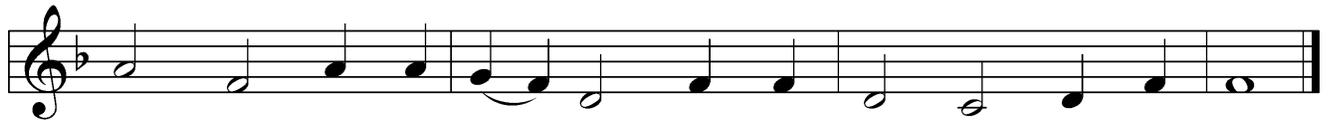
hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
 cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
 veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,
 name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,



Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the
 Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -
 Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and
 Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and



wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -
 pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the
 bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring
 com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your



crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.
 love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.
 us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.
 ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

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Sermon

Giving Up My Rights
 I Corinthians 9:1-23 *NIV*
 Rev. James Hoefer

* Apostles' Creed

**All: I believe in God,
 the Father almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ,
 his only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen**

*Offerings will be received at the end of the service
as you exit the Sanctuary.*

*** Prayer of the Church**

Leader: Let us pray for the whole Christian Church and for all people in their various needs.

For the Church here and around the world, witnessing to the good news in Christ, that we see the worth within one another, the value our heavenly Father places on us, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy, and grant that nothing separate us from You and Your love for us in Christ.

Leader: For those who do not know Christ but support the work of the Church to meet people's physical, social, and spiritual needs, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy, and bless them according to Your abundant grace.

Leader: For people who serve in positions of governmental authority among the nations, for those who raise crops and tend herds, and for all who connect resources with the needs of their fellow citizens, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy, and give them joy in serving.

Leader: For all who struggle to put bread on the table and a roof over their families, those who face injustice and discrimination, and all who are denied human rights, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy, and give us hearts to help those in need.

Leader: For all near and dear to us who call out to God in their distress, [*including . . .*], let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy, and bring about healing, comfort, and relief as fits Your gracious plans for them.

Leader: For ourselves, that we recognize the gifts God has placed among us by which we may care for one another and our community, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy, and give us guidance and strength to serve in Your name.

Leader: Grant us, heavenly Father, that what we ask for in faith we may obtain through Your unfailing mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

* Lord's Prayer

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen**

Benediction

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

All: Amen.

Closing Hymn

O Bless the Lord, My Soul *LSB 814*



1 O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all with - in me join
 2 O bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let His mer - cies lie
 3 'Tis He for - gives thy sins; 'Tis He re - lieves thy pain;
 4 He crowns thy life with love When ran - somed from the grave;



And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose fa - vors are di - vine.
 For - got - ten in un - thank - ful - ness And with - out prais - es die!
 'Tis He that heals thy sick - ness - es And makes thee young a - gain.
 He that re - deemed my soul from hell Hath sov - 'reign pow'r to save.

- 5 He fills the poor with good;
 He gives the suff'ers rest.
 The Lord hath judgments for the proud
 And justice for the oppressed.
- 6 His wondrous works and ways
 He made by Moses known,
 But sent the world His truth and grace
 By His belovèd Son.

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Postlude

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Guest Pastor:	Rev. James Hoefler
Organist:	Dr. John Hwang
Choir Director:	Ron Sautter
Audio Engineer:	Aaron Bland

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